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America's Alphabetical, Alliterative Acrostic

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America's

Alphabetical Alliterative

Acrostic,

From '61 to '65.

Dedicated to my wife and her sisters of

The Ladies' Circle of the G. A. R.

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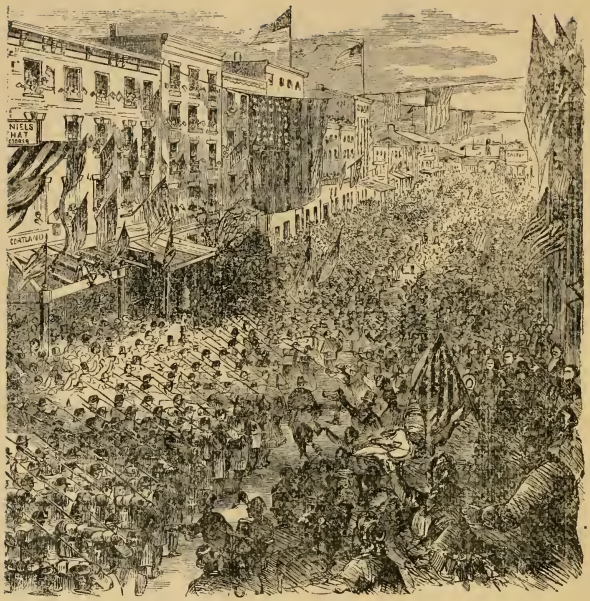
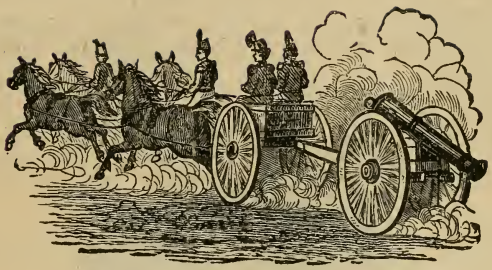


ANSWERING ABRAHAM'S CALL.

January 1st, 1861, the military forces of the United States was 16,367 officers and men. There were six calls for volunteers and three drafts, from '61 to '65, 86,724 paid commutation. The aggregate of these nine calls reduced to a three years' standard, was 2,320,372. The lowest average term of service was 14 days, the highest, 281 days.—91,816 answered the first call of 75,000. In the grand aggregate, 8,738 more men enlisted than were called.



SEEKING POSITION.

A

Americans awry and armies at arms antagonistically arrayed. Artillery. Antietam. Ambulances. Amputations. Andersonville. Atlanta. Appomattox.

B

Battles. Bullets. Bayonets. Bullrun. Belleisland. Blockaded. Bombarded. Besieged. Burned bridges.—Burned barns. Brave "blues" belam betraying bellicose belligerants. Birney's brigade bivouacing below Beverly, "borrowed" beef before breakfast, baked beans, boiled beans, "bacteria" beans, beans, beans, beans. Blanket bouncing blackies, blinkers bulging, begging, bawling, bounding, bolting.

C

Chickamauga. Chickahominy. Chancellorsville.—Chattanooga. Culpepper. Corinth. Cæsar's countries can't compare casualties. Camps closing, cannonading, countermarching. Custer citing cadaverous cadences, cavalry charging, commanders cheering, capturing colors. Contrabands crying, cutting cute capers, carrying canteens, cooking coffee, crunching crackers, catching chickens.

DEADLY ENCOUNTER.

D

Donaldson's defeat decreased dissension. Devil's den discolored dislodging doublequicking demons. Dix. Dupont. Dahlgreen. Danville. During danger, "dude" drummers departed dextrously despite derision. Doubleday's dashing daring deeds, dynamiting Dixie, dropped dying, death discharged. Don't desist DECORATING.

E

Enlist, enlist, enlist, echoed eulogyums EAGLE. Ellsworth. Emancipation. Escape. Evacuation. Enemies. Editors, everybody, erstwhile everywhere eagerly engaged.

F

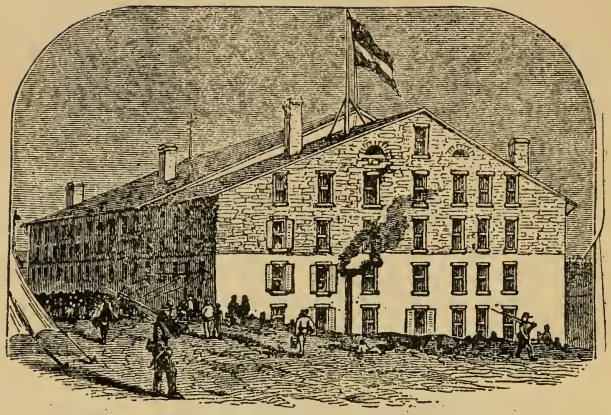
Federals fighting. "Forward fours!" Fredericksburg. Fairfax. Fiveforks. Fairoaks. Fishers. Forts. Fortifications. Fording. Flanking. Foraging. Fifing. Fremont's "French" furloughers fetched. Freedom's faithful flag floaters famishing, fled foes, footsore, forlorn, finally found friends.

G

Gettysburg's glorious gallantry goal gauged generations grudges. Grant. Garfield. Gage. Gorman. Granger. Grierson. Gresham. Gilmore. Geary. Gunboats. "God's government" game. Guerillas "gagged." Greenbacks genuine. Gritty "grays" goners. Goodbye guardhouse, goodbye "graybacks." Gather garlands girls giving graves Grecian glory.

H

Hancock. Harrison. Hayes. Halleck. Howard.—Hunter. Harney. Hartranft. Hooker. Howitzers hurled "halifax." Hissing hardware hit humanity, hit houses, hit horses, heaping havoc. Hounds hunting. Haversacks hollow. Hungry hospital hampered heroes hoped hourly, hospital hash, hominy hulls, homesick, homebound, home. Harry hugged his Harriet, her heart heaved handling her handkerchief. HOME, ham, "heggs," honey. Hyacinths, hollyhocks. HAPPY HOME. Hip, hip, hurrah.



LIBBY PRISON.

I

Infantry. Invasion. Infamous inhuman ilks invaded intrenchments illtreating invalids. Ironclads inundated intermeddlers.

J

Johnnies jabber jammed. Jamestown joyful. Jonesboro jubilant. Jefferson's jaded jig jiffy jerked. Jeopardized, jumped justice.

K

Kilpatrick. Kearney. Knapp. Kelly. Kearsage.—Knoxdale. Kenesaw. Knapsack. Knavish kidnappers killed.

L

LINCOLN. Logan. Lyon. Libby. Lookouts long loyal lines looking left let "Lucifer" loose. Liberty-loving lads lay lifeless. Lady lovers left lonely. Lee, like Leon-ideas lost.

ABOVE THE CLOUDS.

M

Meade. Mitchel. McClellan. McClernend. Mansfield. Mower. McPherson. McDowell. Monitor. Marines. Manasses. Malvern. Murfresboro. Men marching 'mongst monumental mounds, mid muffled martial music, makes many mothers mourn. Mounting mutinous mules made marvelous movements, mostly mixing mire.

N

North's navy notoriously noisy. Nozzles numerous, never napping. Norfolk nudged. Nocturnal nips. Nerve needed. Nantucket nailed. Napoleon's nonchalance nothing—notice negroes navigating nationals north.

O

Ord's ordinance orders often opposed. Officers obviated obstacles originally ostentatious. Oglesby's orderlies operating our onslaught, obliterated oppositions oligarchy.

P

Pleasantons patriotic pioneers pontooned Pamunky, plundered Petersburg, provided provinder plentiful. Prisoners precluding parole, passed pickets, pushed perseveringly; pursued, perceived, pistol-pierced, piece-mealed, pitifully perished.

CAPTURING ESCAPED PRISONERS WITH BLOOD HOUNDS.

Q

Quartermaster's quarters quietly quarantined. Quantrell quaintly quizzing, quailing, quickly quelled.

R

Reveille. Rapidan roads. Rappahannock raids. Rosecrans. Reno. Rodman. Ransom. Reynolds. "Refugee Rifles" relished rations. "Royal Reserves" reconnoitering round Romney, reorganizing, reinforced "Resolute Regulars." "Rampant Rangers" retreating rallied, reformed, routed refractory rebels, running races, REACHED RICHMOND. Returning, rode railroads, released rounding REVIEW. Reconstruction righted rebellious resumptionists.

S

SIXTY-ONE. Started shooting. Sumpter. Scott.—Sheridan. Sickels. Schofield. Stoneman. Sumner. Sigel. Shields. Sheply. Slocum. Sturgis. Sedgwick. Sharpe.—Stanton. Sykes. Shilo. Spottsylvania. Stretchers saved sinking sons. Stockades starved sickly suffering skeleton soldiers. Sherman started seaward. Secret service saluted silently. Sharpshooters scouting. Spies successful stratagems scared Shenandoah's sleepers. Secession sickening. Sutlers "skedaddling." South surrenders. Slavery solved. STARS STAYING. STRIPES STREAMING. Stopped shooting, SIXTY-FIVE. "Sixties" Spartons stood steel saving states.

T

Trains throttled, teams tackled, terror, torture. Trading tobacco, telling tales, taking "tamrack," touching triggers.

Titus took ten towns, Tecumseh took ten times ten. Tecumsehs trained troops taking Thomas, tapped telegraphs, tramped triumphantly through their territory to the terminus. Twenty thousand thanksgiving turkeys to the tree tops take, then Tecumseh's troops their tasters trained, took the turkeys.

FORAGING.

U

UNION. Unum. United. Unconditional Ulysses.—"UNKNOWN."

V

Vicksburg's vim veering veteran volunteers viewing victory, verily vanquished vieing vaunting vanguards.—Virginia's vixins vernacularly vexed various valiant visitors.

W

Wilderness wilds worried "weuns," where Warren's warriors were wounded. Worden wielding warfaring water weapons, whipped wild wisacres when we went wharfing. Wallace's wardrobe wasn't washed weekly, waking watchfulness witnessed. Wellington's Waterloo wasn't what Wauhatchie was. Without wincing, wicked Wirz witnessed wrongs, wretchedness, want, woe, where waneing wizens were. Women writing, widows weeping, wheels whirling, wreaths wrapped. WELCOME.

X

Xystarch. Xyphoid. Xanthous. Xyster.

Y

Yes, ye young yankee yeomanry's yawp yclept "youuns" yazoos "yip yip" yells.

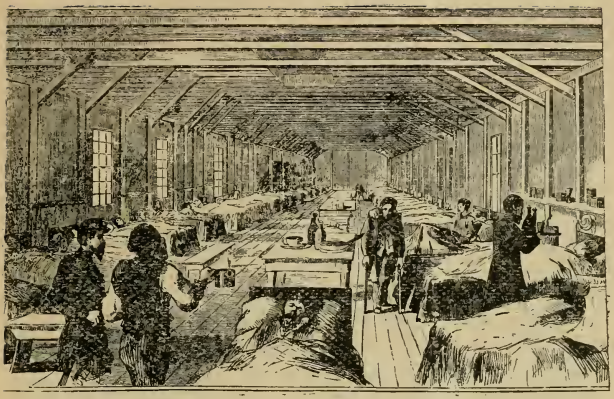
Z

Zagonyi's zigzagging zouaves zenithed zero's zealots. Zip, zip, zallicoffer, zip, zip. Z Z z z.

BUSHWHACKERS AND GUERILLAS IN SECRET SESSION—THE TERROR OF THE BORDER STATES.

Woman's help on the field, in the hospital, and in the Christian Commission was the most noted of any war heretofore known. The American Civil War was twelve times greater in the number of engagements than those of the five great wars of the last two centuries, namely: The Napoleanic war, 19 battles; Franco-Prussian, 16 battles; American Revolution, 52 battles; War with England, 1812, 84 battles; Mexican war, 22 battles; in all, 193 battles.

There were in the American Civil War 2,261 engagements being only 68 less than the entire number of important battles recorded since the creation of man. Of the above 2,261 engagements, 205 of them take rank with the great battles of history, being more than double the number recorded the first 4,000 years.



HOSPITAL.

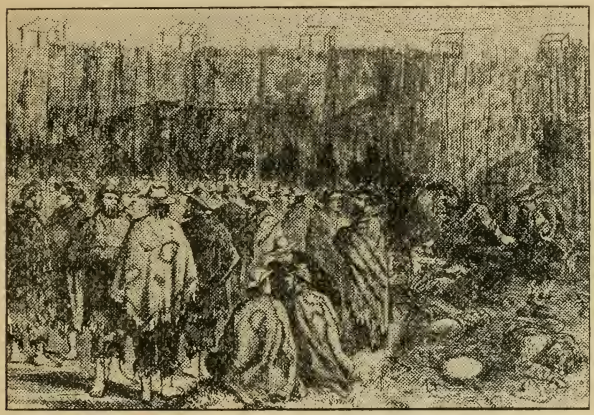
Xerxes army alone excelled in its numbers and slain after crossing the Hellespont, B. C. 414. Alexander the Great in his thirteen years conquering the world fought only six score and a half battles, none of which except the siege of Tyre equalled the siege of Vicksburg. Sherman's march to the sea and then to Washington was not equalled by Hannibal's invasion of Italy, or the Picts, Scots and Saxons invading the Roman Empire. The most brilliant and successful charge of the boys in blue was at Wauhatchie. The most brilliant, but unsuccessful charge of the boys in gray was at Gettysburg. Anteitam was in the shortest time the greatest slaughter. Fredericksburg was the most presumptuous. Victory at Chancellorsville was claimed by both sides. Chicamauga was the most hotly contested. Gettysburg was the first decisive battle of the war. Vicksburg was the longest siege and next important to Gettysburg. Shilo swayed the most frequent to

and fro in the balance of victory. Lookout Mountain was, "The war in heaven," being above the clouds. Fort Donaldson was the shortest siege. Fort Pillow was the most

CAPTURE OF JEFF. DAVIS, DRESSED IN HIS WIFE'S CLOTHES, WITH A BUCKET ON HIS ARM, PRETENDING TO GO FOR WATER, MAY 10, '65.

horrible massacre of prisoners after they had surrendered. Corinth was evacuated and captured without firing a gun. The siege of Petersburg was the best executed concentration of action and simultaneous charge. The Wilderness was the most smoky and shortest range fire. Appomattox was the funnel of the war, through which Lee's army passed into——"the lost cause." The last act of the war was the capture of Jeff Davis in his wife's——curtain drops. There were more union men died of disease than were

both killed and wounded. But of all the recollections of the war, the saddest is, more union men died of starvation in the 16 rebel prisons during the last months of the war, than were killed in battle from '61 to '65.



ANDERSONVILLE PRISON.

Waterloo was "the greatest battle of modern times," with a loss of 26,976. Anteitam, loss, both sides, 38,348; Murfreesboro, loss, 26,138; Chickamauga, 23,665; Spottsylvania, 35,441; Chancellorsville, 28,311; Gettysburg, 65,286; Vicksburg, 25,813; Shilo, 24,372; Kennesaw Mountain, 18,070; Fair Oaks, 12,504; Fredericksburg, 16,929; Fisher's Hill, 18,199; Chattanooga, 14,260; Cedar Creek, 10,105; Corinth, 11,128; Wilderness, 49,137; Petersburg, 26,526; Gettysburg excelled Blenheim and Culloden.—The Civil War ranks with the wars of the greatest nations of the earth.

Union troops from '61 to '65,	2,772,480
" " killed,	67,058
" " wounded,	82,581
" " died of wounds,	43,012
" " disease,	199,720
" " hospital record, treated,	1,054,423
" " died in hospital,	188,353
" " troops captured,	212,608
" " paroled,	16,431
" " died in the 16 rebel prisons,	84,072
" " discharged on account of disease	84,721
" " buried in National cemeteries,	315,865
" " graves marked unknown,	143,555
" " mustered out at the close of the war,	990,516
Total loss of life of union men at close of war,	664,796
War debt,	$5,650,000,000

———o———

Confederate troops from '61 to '65	1,856,956
" " killed,	76,500
" " died of wounds,	65,000
" " disease,	68,821
" " captur'd (including surrender)	476,169
" " paroled (including surrender)	248,599
" " died in prison,	26,774
Total loss of life of Confederates at close of war,	236,095
Surrender of Lee, April 12, 1865,	26,000
" " " Johnston, April 26, 1865,	29,924
" " " Kirby Smith, May 26, 1865,	20,000
" " " Mosby, and others,	16,254
Total,	92,178
Total engaged on both sides,	4,639,436
Total loss of life,	900,891

WELCOME HOME.

———o———

G. A. R. ACROSTIC.

Traitor hands our land would sever;
Heroes answered, "No, sir, never!
Erase no stripe or star!"

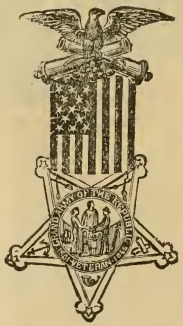
Gettysburg a protest thundered;
Richmond fell; the Nations wondered!
Atlanta groaned 'mid fire and smoke;
Nashville, Vicksburg, Knoxville spoke;
Donelson was ours!

Advancing hosts, with bugle, drummer,
Raleigh rife with mule and driver;
Mammy Davis then would run;
Yank says, "Halt, ye son-'v-a-gun!"

Onward, upward, Stripes and Stars!
Falls in dust the Stars and Bars!

Thousands fell along the way;
Honored wounds are seen to-day—
Empty sleeves, and scars!

Rebel prisons, woe, privation!
Earnest longings, death, starvation!
Pallid faces, groans and pain!
United land! 'twas not in vain!
Broken fetters, freedom given;
Lincoln spoke, and chains were riven!
In silence bow, uncovered head!
Comrades fallen! heroic dead!



The answer to the question is on record, "Why was there no exchange of prisoners and why were union men starved while rebel prisoners confined in Northern prisons were well cared for." General Grant paroled 12,000 Con-

federates at Vicksburg who were, in violation of their parole, immediately armed and sent to Lee's army. Then when an exchange of prisoners was to be made the government wanted 12,000 union men for the men Grant paroled which the Confederacy refused to do, thus blockading the way. It was the boast of the Confederacy to crowd together and starve union men. In 1864 there were nearly 38,000 at Andersonville in a pen of 20 acres, when General Winder, who was in command of all the rebel prisons, received a dispatch from the Rebel War Department asking "Have you room for any more prisoners?" The answer was, "yes, send them on. We are doing more for the Confederacy here, in getting rid of the Yanks, than twenty of Lee's best regiments at the front." When the North sent provision to their men in rebel prisons, General Winder intercepted them and sent them to the rebel army, while rations were withheld from union prisoners for days in pretence of punishment for offenses. Saying nothing about those who were in command, between the boys in blue and the boys in gray the hand clasp of charity grows warmer and stronger.

FRATERNAL ACROSTIC.

Attention! Not all soldiers sleep 'neath tall shafts of white stone!

ETERNAL He, who marks the sparrow's fall, when we with reverence stop.

VIGILANCE He keeps o'er graves that, alas! are marked Unknown.

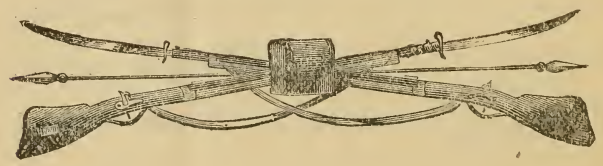
IS a flower too much on vacant lot on Memorial day to drop?

THE boys that sleep in swamps, or fields, in valleys, or on mountains,
PRICE they paid, no church bell tolled, no service read, no requiem sung.
OF all graves the dearest known at memories sweet fountain is—
LIBERTY loving Comrades, long, long ago, laid under the ground.

THE blood spattered hospital, the battle field gore of every brigade,
PENALTY paid, in prison to languish and pine, taken, facing the foe,
OF graves of starved heroes, dying by inches within the stockade,
TREASON, never, can cancel that debt which they owe.

IS there not some mother's boy who fell by the sword?
DEATH bravely met, while charging and taking the enemies guns?
COMRADES, many, had neither wife, sister, nor mother to hear the last word.
REMEMBER then, the dead who saved the old flag to daughters and sons.

FRATERNITY is binding still closer and closer the blue and the gray,
CHARITY goes farther than anything else since our country's first call.
AND, as feeling and prejudice, more and more gives way,
LOYALTY, will firmly unite and make Americans of us all.



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